

On the next day, Wednesday, Mr. Justice Bosanquet proceeded to pass the sentence upon him. He said, that Andrew, as a young man, might not have been aware of the offence he was committing, but he (the Judge) felt it was necessary to inflict some punishment upon the present occasion, as a warning; and as he was unwilling to inflict a fine which the defendant would be unable to pay, he must submit to be *imprisoned for a fortnight*.

This is the first conviction under the Act since its passing in August, 1832.—Abridged from the *Lincoln Mercury*.

VERDICT WITHOUT SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE.

To the Editor.—SIR: On Tuesday, the 15th instant, I was sent for to see a person named *Moses Samuel*, who was said to have taken arsenic. He certainly exhibited those symptoms which arise after taking a mineral poison, and, accordingly, I gave him an antidote, and cleansed the stomach, as well as I could, with the stomach-pump. No medical aid was sought for until two hours and a half had elapsed after taking the supposed poison, and the patient died in a short time after I had visited him. On the Thursday following, an inquest was held on the body by Mr. Stirling. The deceased's confession, and the statement of a person who sold some arsenic to him, were the only matters put in as evidence that he had taken arsenic. A woman, with whom he had cohabited, said that she bought him some antimonial wine, which he took; but no proof was adduced that antimonial wine was taken. I saved some of the contents of the stomach, but could not detect arsenic by any of the usual tests. The medical evidence was, that the man probably died from some poison, but what kind the witness did not know, stating that the only means of ascertaining the fact was by a post-mortem examination, which the jury did not think proper to enforce. A verdict was returned, "Died from taking Arsenic." Now no person saw arsenic taken, and it could not be discovered by analysis? Is not this a case which absolutely demanded a post-mortem examination? And would not a medical coroner have advised the jury to withhold their verdict until it had been performed? I am sorry to say, that no such advice was given. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

BENJAMIN BERNARD EARDLEY.

Islington, March 22, 1836.

NORTH-LONDON HOSPITAL.

GASTRODYNIA.

WILLIAM ODELL, ætatis suæ 38, a farmer residing in Bedfordshire, admitted Dec. 22, 1835, under the care of Dr. ELLIOTSON. He

is of a spare habit, has never been addicted to drinking, and has usually enjoyed very good health. Two years since he was seized with severe pain at the epigastrium, not increased on pressure; loss of appetite, frequent vomiting, depression of spirits, palpitation of heart, and obstinate constipation, which continuing for some time, and gradually increasing, obliged him to consult a medical practitioner, who supplied him with medicines, which afforded considerable relief, and, at the same time, ordered him to rub into the chest tartar-emetic ointment, the result of which was an abundant eruption of phlyzaceous pustules, which healed with difficulty. In June, or July last, these symptoms became unexpectedly aggravated, and have been increasing to the date of admission.

His symptoms now consist of dull, aching, and gnawing pain in the epigastric region, not increased on pressure or inspiration, aggravated after eating, but relieved for a short time by warm drinks, more particularly spirits, or wine and water. He is exceedingly low-spirited, cannot sleep, and is worse in the morning than at night. Complaints of violent pain across the umbilical region, arising, doubtlessly, from constipation, the bowels having been confined for two or three days; his appetite is tolerable, although he occasionally vomits, and suffers from palpitation. No pain in head or chest, and auscultation reveals no abnormal condition of the thoracic viscera; urine passed in large quantities, but thick and turbid; tongue tolerably clean; pulse 84, natural.

℞ *Acidi Hydrocyanici* ℥ij; *ex Aquæ Menthe Piperitæ* f. ʒiiss. 5ta quaque hora sumatur.

Extract. Colocynth. Compos. gr. x, quaque nocte hora somni sumatur.

December 24. Pain of stomach relieved, but still complains of want of sleep.

28. Much better; bowels relieved daily; pain in chest removed, but irritability of stomach continues. Auge *Acidum Hydrocyanicum* ad ℥iv.

January 2, 1836. Stomach irritable. Auge *Acidum Hydrocyanicum* ad ℥v.

5. *Acidi Hyd.* ℥vi. 5ta quaque hora.

10. Although pain of stomach still remains, he expresses himself as considerably better than on his admission; bowels continue constipated.

℞ *Acidi Hydrocyanici* ℥vi; *Eger Olei Crotonæ Tiglii* ℥ ʒ, omni nocte sumatur.

January 16. Occasional pains, want of sleep, and great coldness of the back. Per-
gat in usu medicorum.

19. The dose of the acid not subduing the irritable condition of the stomach, increase the dose to nine minims; complains of